among the poor people. The fishermen have certainly received as much help as other poor people and in addition assistance has been given to fishermen wherever required for mending boats and nets.

IV.—GOVERNMENT MOTIONS.

(1) MOTION UNDER RULE 23 (1) OF THE COUNCIL RULES.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move—

'That rule 23 (1) of the Madras Council Rules be suspended and this House do resolve to transact Government Business on Saturday, the 18th February 1961.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

'That rule 23 (1) of the Madras Council Rules be suspended and this House do resolve to transact Government Business on Saturday, the 18th February 1961'.

The motion was put and carried.

(2) AMENDMENT TO RULES UNDER THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL ACT, 1919 (MADRAS ACT IV OF 1919).

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move—

" That the following draft of a rule proposed to be made by the Governor of Madras under sub-section (3) of section 347 of the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919 (Madras Act IV of 1919), amending Schedule V to that Act be approved.

Draft Rule

In sub-rule (1) of rule 12 of the said Schedule, for the words 'or in his absence by the Revenue Officer' the words 'or any Officer or servant of the Corporation specially authorized by the Commissioner in this behalf' shall be substituted."

Under rule 12 (1) of Schedule V to the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, all orders and cheques against the Municipal fund (i.e. Corporation fund) shall be signed by the Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras or in his absence by the Revenue Officer of the Corporation. Under this rule, at present all pay orders and cheques against Municipal fund are signed by the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras. Under rules 13 and 14 of the said Schedule, the Commissioner is the authority competent to make or authorize the payment out of Corporation funds of sums due for payment.

The Commissioner has stated that due to the expansion of the developmental activities and execution of various capital works, he has to sign hundreds of cheques everyday which takes a good

18th February 1961] [Srimathi Lourdhammal Simon]

deal of his precious time which could be concentrated on more important items of work which require his attention. He therefore considers that all pay orders and cheques against the Municipal fund can be signed by the Deputy Commissioner. The Commissioner has therefore requested the Government to amend rule 12 (1) of Schedule V to the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, suitably.

Under section 16 of the Madras City Municipal Act, the Commissioner may delegate to any Officer any of his ordinary powers, duties or functions except those excepted therein. Rule 12 of Schedule V to the Madras City Municipal Act is not one of the exceptions specified in the said section. However, rules 13 and 14 of the said Schedule are among the exceptions enumerated in section 16 of the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919. It is therefore proposed to amend only rule 12 (1) of the said schedule which will enable the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, to delegate the power of signing the cheques to any officer or servant of the Corporation specially authorized by the Commissioner in this behalf. 3-30 p.m.

This will not entail legislation; but under section 347 (5) of the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, a draft of the rule proposed to alter Schedule V should be laid before both chambers of the State Legislature and their approval obtained. I ask for the approval of the House accordingly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is—

"That the following draft of a rule proposed to be made by the Governor of Madras under sub-section (3) of section 347 of the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919 (Madras Act IV of 1919), amending Schedule V to that Act be approved—

Draft Rule

In sub-rule (1) of rule 12 of the said Schedule, *for* the words 'or in his absence by the Revenue Officer' the words 'or any Officer or servant of the Corporation specially authorized by the Commissioner in this behalf' shall be substituted".

The motion was put and carried.

V.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS CHIT FUNDS BILL, 1961 (L.A. BILL NO. 5 OF 1960).

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, I move—

'That the Madras Chit Funds Bill, 1961[a] (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1960), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.'

Sir, this Bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly in April 1960, and with the concurrence of this House, it was referred to a Joint Select Committee. After recording evidence, the Committee subjected the clauses of the Bill to a thorough scrutiny. As a result, the Committee has made some changes to

---

(a) Printed as Appendix on pages 311-322 infra.